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Leicestershire County Council

ANNUAL  
REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1924.



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# Officers of the Medical Department 1924.

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T. ROBINSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Camb.)

County Medical Officer.

Chief School Medical Officer.

Administrative Tuberculosis Officer.

Chief Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

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J. A. FAIRER, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H. (Man.),  
Senior Assistant County Medical Officer.

Senior Assistant School Medical Officer.

Venereal Diseases Medical Officer.

Bacteriologist.

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N. A. COWARD, O.B.E., M.D., CH.B. (Edin.), D.P.H. (Oxon.)

Assistant County Medical Officer.

Senior Tuberculosis Medical Officer.

Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

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H. CARPENTER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., (Lond.)

Second Tuberculosis Medical Officer.

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M. E. WESTON, M.B., B.S. (Lond.)

Assistant School Medical Officer.

Assistant Infant Welfare Medical Officer.

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## HEALTH VISITORS :

Warren, Mrs. A. (Superintendent Health Visitor.)

Antrobus, Mrs. A. D.

Bailey, Miss A. J.

Bennett, Miss G.

Brunsdon, Mrs. P.

Brunt, Mrs. M. J.

Butler, Miss G. E.

Cade, Mrs. F. E. M.

Cole, Miss R.

Duncombe, Miss A.

Fay, Miss M.

Fox, Miss L.

Griffiths, Miss T. M.

\*Kennedy, Miss A. M.

Marsh, Miss K. A.

Poxon, Miss M.

Waller, Miss M. J.

Wright, Mrs. E. E.

\* Resigned

# The County Sanitary and Housing Committee, 1924.

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J. W. BLACK, Esq. (Chairman).

Bastard, W.	Pickard, A.
Forsell, J. T.	( <i>Vice-Chairman</i> )
Goodacre, C.	Pochin, V. R.
Goodman, J. A.	( <i>ex-officio</i> )
*Hazlerigg, Sir A. G. (Bt.)	Shields, J.
Hubbard, B.	Squirrell, E. A.
Jacques, J. T.	Stubbs, W.
Kinton, G.	Tandy, E. W.
Levers, G. T.	Timms, R.
Martin, Lt.-Col. R. E.	Ward, G.
( <i>ex-officio</i> )	Whitwell, H. J.
McCarthy, M.	Wilson, C.
	Wright, W. H.

\* Resigned during the year.

# REPORT.

17 FRIAR LANE, LEICESTER,

JUNE, 1925.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1924, which is my twenty-seventh Annual Report on the Health of the County.

The chief vital statistics have already been submitted to the County Council. From these it is seen that the Health of the County has, on the whole, been very satisfactory.

The most gratifying feature is the low Infant Mortality Rate of 60 per 1,000 births. This is the lowest on record in the County and compares with the rate of 75 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

The work of the Infant Welfare Centres has been kept up to its high standard and the number of Centres is increasing. The thanks of the County are especially due to the Local Committee of ladies for their ever willing assistance in looking after the health of the mothers and babies.

A good deal of work has been done in various directions in the way of promoting the cleaner production of Milk. Milk Competitions have been held which have proved most successful and have resulted in a considerable extension in the production of clean milk. Efforts are also being directed towards ascertaining the cleanliness of milk generally sold in the County ; and, during the coming year, I hope to be able to supply some considerable evidence on this matter which should be a valuable guide to future action. The public are showing an increased interest also in this question ; and when they fully realise the great value of Clean Raw Milk, and the greater value of " Grade A " milk, we can safely anticipate a further improvement in the general health of the people and especially in that of the children.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

T. ROBINSON,

*County Medical Officer of Health.*



# REPORT.

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE COUNTY.

**Population.**—The estimated population supplied by the Registrar General is 273,100 for both the Birth and Death Rates.

Last year the figure was 268,000.

The natural increase of the population this year is 1,940 as compared to 2,391 last year, and 2,583 in 1922.

The decennial average previous to 1922 was 2,143.

## PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

The area of the administrative County is 524,197 acres. Of this total the twelve Urban Districts comprise 39,915 acres and the thirteen Rural Districts 484,282 acres.

Further information with regard to the Geographical nature of Leicestershire will be found in my Annual Report for last year.

### Industries.

Particulars of the chief industries of the County have been given in previous reports.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1924.

The following is the summary of the chief statistical information for the Urban and Rural Districts, and the County as a whole.

For the purpose of comparison the corresponding figures are also given for Rural England and Wales.

A correct record of deaths of persons actually belonging to the County is still maintained by the Transferable Death Returns system.

The most pleasing feature of this return is that all the rates, with the exception of Enteric Fever and Diphtheria are all well below the respective rates for Rural England and Wales.

Enteric Fever and Diphtheria show a rate identical to that of the rest of the Country.

		LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY, 1924.						ENGLAND AND WALES.		
		Urban.		Rural.		Whole County.				
Population		113,595		159,505		273,100		—		
		No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	Rates.		
Births . . . . .		2205	19·41	2925	18·34	5130	18·78	18·8		
Deaths (all causes and all ages) . . . . .		1333	11·73	1857	11·64	3190	11·68	12·2		
,, (under one year) . .		151	*68·	158	*54·	309	*60·	*75·		
,, (total Zymotic) . .		30	0·26	35	0·22	65	0·24	—		
Deaths from—										
The seven principal Zymotic Diseases.	Small Pox . . . . .	0	0·00	0	0·00	0	0·00	0·00		
	Enteric Fever . . . . .	0	0·00	2	0·01	2	0·01	0·01		
	Measles . . . . .	3	0·03	2	0·01	5	0·02	0·12		
	Whooping Cough . . . .	6	0·05	9	0·06	15	0·05	0·10		
	Diphtheria . . . . .	5	0·04	13	0·08	18	0·06	0·06		
	Scarlet Fever . . . . .	0	0·00	2	0·01	2	0·01	0·02		
	†Diarrhœa (under 2 years) . . . . .	16	*7·25	7	*2·39	23	*4·48	*7·3		
								Percentage of Total Deaths.		
								Urban.	Rural.	Whole County
The eight chief causes of Death were :—	Heart Disease . . . . .	182	1·60	261	1·64	443	1·62	13·65	14·05	13·89
	Cancer . . . . .	142	1·25	210	1·32	352	1·29	10·65	11·31	11·03
	Cerebral Hæmorrhage . . . .	98	0·86	140	0·88	238	0·87	7·35	7·54	7·46
	Bronchitis . . . . .	107	0·94	123	0·77	230	0·84	8·03	6·63	7·21
	Phthisis . . . . .	90	0·79	130	0·81	220	0·81	6·75	7·00	6·90
	Pneumonia . . . . .	81	0·71	102	0·64	183	0·67	6·08	5·49	5·74
	Influenza . . . . .	49	0·43	94	0·59	143	0·52	3·68	5·06	4·48
Congenital Debility . . . .	66	0·58	70	0·44	136	0·50	4·95	3·77	4·26	

NOTES.—\* The Rates are calculated per thousand of the population except where marked (\*) which are per thousand registered births.

† The Diarrhœa Rates per thousand of the population are : Urban, 0·14; Rural, 0·04; Whole County, 0·08.

## Births.

The Birth Rate this year has fallen to 18·8 as against 19·8 in 1923, but remains the same as the Rate for Rural England and Wales. Last year attention was called to the fact that during recent years the Birth Rate for the County has been falling, and this year is the lowest recorded since 1919.

YEAR	URBAN.		RURAL.		COUNTY.		Rate for Rural Engl'nd and Wales.
	Net No. Registered	Rate	Net No. Registered	Rate	Net No. Registered	Rate	
1920	2700	24·4	3633	24·1	6333	24·2	25·4
1921	2477	22·6	3232	21·1	5709	21·7	22·4
1922	2419	21·8	3103	20·0	5522	20·8	20·6
1923	2274	20·3	3045	19·4	5319	19·8	19·7
<b>1924</b>	<b>2205</b>	<b>19·41</b>	<b>2925</b>	<b>18·34</b>	<b>5130</b>	<b>18·8</b>	<b>18·8</b>

The total number of Births registered during the year was 5,130 of which 2,582 were males and 2,548 females.

The number of illegitimate births reported was 171 comprising 87 males and 84 females. The percentage of illegitimacy in the County shows a welcome decrease, the figure being 3·3 as compared to 3·9 in 1923 and 4·5 in 1922. In 1920 and 1921 the percentages were 4·2 and 4·0 respectively. This year it will be observed that the male illegitimate births slightly outnumber the female. This fact is recorded owing to the excess of illegitimate female births in previous years.

The notification of Still Births still obtains under the Notification of Births Act and applies to every child born after the 28th week of pregnancy. During the year 44 Still Birth notifications were received.

## Deaths.

It is regrettable that after the steady fall in the number of deaths during the last three years I have now to report an increase of 262 more deaths than last year.

The total number of deaths was 3,190 giving a rate of 11·68 which however is still below that for the rest of the Country (12·2).



YEAR	URBAN		RURAL		COUNTY		Rate for Rural Engl'nd and Wales.
	Net No Registered	Rate	Net No Registered	Rate.	Net No. Registered	Rate.	
1920	1193	10·8	1667	11·1	2860	10·9	12·4
1921	1240	11·3	1728	11·3	2968	11·3	12·1
1922	1237	11·2	1702	10·9	2939	11·1	12·9
1923	1189	10·6	1739	11·1	2928	10·9	11·6
<b>1924</b>	<b>1333</b>	<b>11·74</b>	<b>1857</b>	<b>11·64</b>	<b>3190</b>	<b>11·68</b>	<b>12·2</b>

Although the Death Rate for the County has risen it is gratifying to record the low death rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases (0·24 as against 0·5 last year—65 deaths compared to 138).

The chief cause of the higher mortality in the County this year is undoubtedly the increase in the number of deaths from Heart Disease, Influenza and Bronchitis. These three diseases have been responsible for 95, 85 and 66 more deaths respectively.

In 1923 the seven chief causes of death were Heart Disease 11·85%, Cancer 10·79%, Cerebral Hæmorrhage 7·62%, Phthisis 7·0%, Congenital Debility 5·81%, Bronchitis 5·6% and Pneumonia 5·4%.

Owing to so many cases of Influenza having proved fatal this disease is included with the principal causes of death for the year 1924 which are as follows :—Heart Disease 13·89%, Cancer 11·03%, Cerebral Hæmorrhage 7·46%, Bronchitis 7·21%, Phthisis 6·90%, Pneumonia 5·74%, Influenza 4·48%, and Congenital Debility 4·26%.

Whilst Cerebral Hæmorrhage and Phthisis remain about the same the percentages of the other diseases except Congenital Debility are higher than last year. This disease however, has claimed fewer victims than last year, the percentages being 4·26 against 5·81 (170 deaths in 1923 against 136 this year).

The following table shows the above-mentioned causes of death for 1924 and the previous quinquennial average, together with the percentages for the whole County :—

Disease.	URBAN.				RURAL.				WHOLE COUNTY.			
	Previous Quinquennial Average		1924		Previous Quinquennial Average		1924		Previous Quinquennial Average		1924	
	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.	No.	Per Cent.
Heart Disease ...	142	11.45	182	13.65	213	12.22	261	14.05	355	11.90	443	13.89
Cancer ...	120	9.68	142	10.65	177	10.15	210	11.31	297	9.96	352	11.03
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	52	4.19	98	7.35	77	4.42	140	7.54	129	4.32	238	7.46
Bronchitis ...	95	7.66	107	8.03	102	5.85	123	6.63	197	6.60	230	7.21
Phthisis ...	91	7.34	90	6.75	108	6.19	130	7.00	199	6.67	220	6.90
Pneumonia ...	74	5.97	81	6.08	93	5.34	102	5.49	167	5.60	183	5.74
Influenza ...	44	3.55	49	3.68	77	4.42	94	5.06	121	4.06	143	4.48
Congenital Debility	80	6.45	66	4.95	93	5.34	70	3.77	173	5.80	136	4.26

### Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1924.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1924, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1923. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns).

BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA TION.	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1000 BIRTHS.	
	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 Years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	
England and Wales .. .. .	12·2	0·01	0·00	0·12	0·02	0·10	0·06	0·49	0·44	7·3	75	
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London .. ..	12·3	0·01	0·00	0·18	0·03	0·12	0·08	0·45	0·40	9·2	80	
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000) ..	11·2	0·01	0·00	0·08	0·02	0·09	0·06	0·50	0·36	6·2	71	
London .. .. .	12·1	0·01	—	0·29	0·03	0·11	0·12	0·36	0·44	8·4	69	
<b>Leicestershire .. .. .</b>	<b>11·7</b>	<b>0·01</b>	<b>0·00</b>	<b>0·02</b>	<b>0·01</b>	<b>0·05</b>	<b>0·06</b>	<b>0·52</b>	<b>0·35</b>	<b>4·5</b>	<b>60</b>	



## Infantile Mortality.

It is a matter for congratulation that the Infantile Mortality Rate which was 62 last year, the lowest ever recorded, is even better this year the figure having fallen to 60. This diminution in Infant Mortality appears to be a still greater achievement when compared with the Rate of 75 for the rest of the Country.

The mortality of Leicestershire since 1909 has always been below that for Rural England and Wales, and as the Health Visitors were first appointed in 1910, this points to the creditable work performed by them, and also by the Infant Welfare Centres which were inaugurated 6 years later.

YEAR	URBAN		RURAL		COUNTY		Rate for Rural England and Wales.
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	
1920	196	72	212	58	408	64	80
1921	202	81	204	63	406	71	83
1922	168	69	199	64	367	66	77
1923	147	65	181	59	328	62	69
<b>1924</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>75</b>

Amongst the illegitimate children the deaths numbered 17 giving a rate of 99, whilst the deaths of legitimate children totalled 292 showing a rate of 59.

This illegitimate mortality rate has also greatly diminished—last year's figures being 208 births, 31 deaths, and a rate of 149. In 1921 and 1922 the rates were 95 and 144 respectively.

## Diseases of the Respiratory Organs.

The diseases included under the above heading are Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Other Respiratory Diseases. These diseases accounted for 450 deaths during the year, of which Bronchitis claimed 230, Pneumonia 183 and 37 were ascribed to Other Respiratory Diseases.



Last year 358 deaths were credited to these diseases:—  
Bronchitis 164, Pneumonia 158 and Other Respiratory Diseases 36.

Whilst the number of victims claimed by Bronchitis has increased perceptibly this year, the other diseases under this heading have only been responsible for 26 more fatal cases. The proportion of male to female deaths remain practically equal.

This high mortality from Bronchitis may be due to the weather conditions prevailing during the year in question. The inclement weather conditions with little or no sunshine must have had a deleterious effect on older persons suffering from chest weaknesses, and the younger debilitated children.

The most outstanding feature in the following table of the age incidence of Respiratory Diseases is the age groups of the deaths from Bronchitis.

43 children under 5 years of age died as the result of Bronchitis, whilst between the ages of 5 and 45 only 3 deaths were recorded, and over the age of 45 years 184 cases of this disease proved fatal.

DEATHS from Diseases of the Respiratory Organs.

AGE.	BRONCHITIS.						PNEUMONIA.						OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES.					
	Urban.			Rural.			Urban.			Rural.			Urban.			Rural.		
			Whole County.			Whole County.			Whole County.			Whole County.			Whole County.			Whole County.
	M	F		M	F		M	F		M	F		M	F		M	F	
Under One	...	...	...	8	5	19	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 to 2	...	...	...	5	1	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 to 5	...	...	...	2	1	...	3	2	2	4	4	8	...	...	...	1	...	...
5 to 15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15 to 25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 to 45	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 to 65	...	...	...	8	11	4	7	12	18	19	8	17	...	...	...	4	4	...
65 and over	...	...	...	26	38	49	41	75	79	4	6	21	5	3	...	5	1	...
Totals ...	...	...	...	51	56	68	55	119	111	44	37	92	10	6	...	16	5	11
GRAND TOTALS ...	...	...	...	107	123	230	81	102	183	16	21	37	...	...	...	...	...	...

## **Organic Heart Disease.**

This disease again heads the list of the principal causes of death.

During the year 443 deaths were reported giving a rate of 1·62 against 347 deaths and a rate of 1·29 last year. The deaths in 1921 and 1922 were 322 and 379 and the rates 1·23 and 1·43 respectively.

Of the 443 deaths 220 were males and 223 females (162 males and 185 females in 1923).

## **Cancer.**

This disease again accounts for the second highest number of deaths, viz., 352. (154 males and 198 females).

This is an increase of 36 on last year's figure and is equal to 11·03%, of the total deaths registered. This year the death rate is 1·29 as against 1·18 for the year 1923.

During the 5 years previous to 1924 the average number of deaths from this disease was 297.

In my last years report I strongly alluded to this very alarming increase in the number of deaths from this terrible scourge, and when it is pointed out that the numbers of deaths have increased from 177 in 1900 to 352 this year I think I am justified in saying that the position is more than serious.

This increase is not only peculiar to this County, or even to this Country, but is general throughout the world. I need not lay stress on the fact that it is causing more than ordinary concern and that great efforts are being made by the Ministry of Health, assisted by the Medical Research Council to discover the cause of the disease.

Although many arguments have been put forward with regard to the causation of this disease, nothing has been satisfactorily proved. Undoubtedly early diagnosis with subsequent early operative treatment would lessen the mortality but unfortunately the public either through carelessness or ignorance,

do not seek medical advice in the early stages. Often the Medical Practitioner is not called in until pain has caused attention to an obvious lesion which has been present for some time.

If the public could be educated by means of propaganda, to recognise the early symptoms of Cancer, much could be done to eradicate the disease.

A tumour or growth occurring after middle age, in certain parts of the body may be the initial stage of Cancer, or an abnormal hæmorrhage or discharge, although not of a painful character, may be the first indication of the onset of this disease.

Several authorities have issued leaflets and brochures, giving particulars of the early symptoms and the localities of Cancerous growth. Although it is too early to state definitely that these have been of any benefit, I consider this procedure advisable.

Undoubtedly the grave increase in the number of deaths from Cancer is a cause for much anxiety and therefore any steps that can be taken to minimise the mortality are urgently required.

### **Cerebral Hæmorrhage.**

This disease again ranks third out of the eight chief causes of death in the County, it having accounted for 238 or 7·46% of the total number of deaths.

Last year's figures were 223 deaths and a percentage of 7·62.

It will be noticed that the percentage this year is slightly better than last year.

The male deaths totalled 94 and the female deaths 144.

### **Congenital Debility.**

136 deaths were attributable to this disease this year as compared to 170 last year ; a welcome decrease.

The male deaths totalled 73 and the female 63.



**Cirrhosis of the Liver.**

The total number of deaths from this disease shows a slight increase on last year the figures being 15 against 13. In 1920, 1921 and 1922 the figures were 14, 18 and 13 respectively.

Of the 15 deaths 11 occurred in males and 4 in females.

**Nephritis or Brights Disease.**

This disease claimed 68 deaths during 1924 an increase of 3 on 1923, but a decrease of 12 on the year 1922.

33 of the deaths were in males and 35 in females.

## HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

The Hospital Accommodation of the County remains the same as in my reports of 1922 and 1923.

### Poor Law Institutions.

Particulars of these Institutions are to be found in my report of 1922.

### Isolation Hospitals.

The Secretary of the Isolation Hospitals' Committee report as follows :—

Isolation Hospitals are provided by the County Isolation Hospitals' Committee at Blaby, Hinckley, Melton Mowbray, Loughborough, Ibstock, Swannington, Moira and Coalville.

The number of beds available in these Hospitals is 87, viz., Hinckley 20, Melton Mowbray 20, Blaby 18, Loughborough 8, Ibstock 8, Moira 6, Swannington 4, and Coalville 3.

The following are the number of cases isolated in the above Hospitals during the year :—

DISTRICT.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Other Diseases.	Total.
Urban	52	57	13	122
Rural	111	87	8	206
Whole County	163	144	21	328

Particulars with regard to the Small Pox Hospitals are given later in this Report.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Zymotic Deaths.

The diseases included under this heading are Small Pox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Diarrhoea (under 2 years).

The number of deaths from these diseases this year show a very marked decrease, the total number of deaths having fallen from 138 to 65.

The rate this year has fallen from 0·5 in 1923 to 0·2 this year.

This welcome decrease is no doubt due to the lessened number of deaths from Measles, Whooping Cough, and Diphtheria. Last year these three causes of death accounted for a total of 96 deaths against 38 this year.

There were only two deaths from Enteric Fever against six last year.

The Infantile Diarrhoeal Rate compares most favourably with that of Rural England and Wales being only 4·48 as compared to 7·3.

YEAR.	URBAN.		RURAL.		COUNTY.	
	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.	No.	Rate.
1920	89	0·8	74	0·5	163	0·6
1921	45	0·4	88	0·5	128	0·5
1922	38	0·3	38	0·2	76	0·3
1923	59	0·5	79	0·5	138	0·5
<b>1924</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>0·3</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0·2</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>0·2</b>

## Notifications.

The following are the numbers of notifications received from the Urban and Rural Districts during the year under review :—

DISEASE.	URBAN DISTRICTS.	RURAL DISTRICTS.	ADMINIS- TRATIVE COUNTY.
*Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ..	129	186	315
Chicken Pox .. ..	203	104	307
*Scarlet Fever .. ..	101	145	246
Pneumonia .. ..	107	104	211
*Small Pox .. ..	87	11	98
*Erysipelas .. ..	26	45	71
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	20	9	29
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	10	15	25
*Enteric Fever .. ..	3	5	8
Poliomyelitis .. ..	3	3	6
*Puerperal Fever .. .	2	2	4
Dysentery .. ..	—	2	2
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	—	1	1
Malaria .. ..	—	1	1
Tuberculosis (Lungs) ..	144	159	303
Ditto (other) .. ..	34	46	80
TOTALS .. ..	869	838	1707

\* These figures were supplied by the Registrar General, and are for the 53 weeks ending January 3rd, 1925.

This year the total number of notifications show an increase of 431 on last year. This increase is chiefly due to the fact that owing to the prevalence of Small Pox several Districts adopted the notification of Chicken Pox.



In all 307 cases of Chicken Pox were reported against 59 in 1923.

The number of cases of Small Pox shows an increase of 77 on last year.

### **Small Pox.**

This disease which occurred in the Ashby Woulds district during the last month of 1923, has continued throughout the year under review.

All the cases were isolated immediately upon receipt of information that they were suffering from Small Pox. This immediate isolation was greatly facilitated by the purchase of a Motor Ambulance by the Small Pox Hospital Committee.

Arrangements were already in operation, whereby cases from the County could if necessary be admitted to the Nottingham Small Pox Hospital, but only one case had to be sent to that Hospital.

All the cases with the above exception were treated at the Small Pox Hospitals at Syston and Snarestone.

The Snarestone Hospital was closed on February 18th, but the Hospital at Syston, with the exception of three weeks in July, was kept open all through the year, the last case being admitted on December 16th.

In the early part of the year the disease was confined to the Ashby Woulds Urban District and the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban and Rural Districts, but on April 7th two cases were reported from the Melton Mowbray area.

All the schools in and around the Ashby area were closed as a precautionary measure.

With the exception of 8 more cases from the Ashby Districts during the months of May and June the epidemic completely transferred itself to the Melton Urban District, and continued up to the end of the year.

One of the School Doctors visited the schools in this town every day with the object of keeping a lookout for any suspicious cases.

It was deemed advisable to keep these schools open and continue this procedure to try if possible to keep a check on the spread of the disease. Every school and every school department was visited each day, and all children present were examined for any incipient signs of illness.

In addition to the children attending school all children not present for any reason, were visited at home and the parents instructed in the signs of the disease and the necessity for strict isolation.

In all 98 cases of Small Pox were reported in the County as against 21 last year.

The number notified from the Ashby Districts was 41—Ashby Woulds Urban 30, Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban 4, and Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural 7.

In the Melton Districts the outbreak was more serious, 57 cases being reported, 53 from the Urban and 4 from the Rural.

When it is pointed out that 36 of these cases were children who had been in attendance at school it would not have been surprising to find the outbreak reaching alarming proportions.

A noticeable feature of the outbreak in 1923 was that 19 of the 21 cases admitted to Hospital were females. This year the difference is not so marked, the figures being 55 females and 43 males.

The ages of the patients ranged from 5 months to 60 years, but the majority were between the ages of 3 and 14.

Only 11 of the 98 patients admitted to Hospital had been vaccinated previously, and with the exception of one, these were older persons who were vaccinated in infancy. The one exception was a school child who was vaccinated as a contact, but who had evidently already contracted the disease as the vaccination and Small Pox ran concurrently.

In my last report I gave particulars of the percentage of children found to be vaccinated amongst 1,000 examined in each of the school age groups. The figures for this year are :—4 to 6 years 18·39%, 8 to 9 years 19·76%, and 11 to 12 years 33·51%.

Last year the corresponding percentages were 6·6, 14 and 26·6 respectively.

The increase in these figures this year is undoubtedly due to the prevalence of Small Pox in the County and to the fact that parents are more fully cognisant of the value of vaccination.

In addition to the actual sufferers admitted to Hospital it was found necessary to admit 5 contacts.

Of these 5 contacts, 3 were nursing mothers (3 babies having contracted the disease), and the other 2 were contacts who could not be attended to at home owing to the presence of their mothers in hospital.

The disease is very prevalent in many parts of the Country, but it is of a very mild character, and happily does not cause any appreciable mortality even amongst the un-vaccinated.

Owing to this mildness it is very easy for cases to be overlooked or unrecognised until they have been suffering sufficiently long enough to infect others, hence the difficulty in stamping out the epidemic.

### **Diphtheria.**

The prevalence of this disease this year is more pronounced than usual but in spite of this it is gratifying to be able to report a large decrease in the number of fatal cases, and the consequent death rate.

The total number of cases proving fatal was 18 giving a rate of 0·06. Last year 30 deaths were reported showing a rate of 0·11. The Death rate for the County compares favourably with that for Rural England and Wales, the figures being identical.



The death rate this year is the lowest yet recorded for this County, the previous best being 0·10 in 1922. The highest was 1·05 in 1894 when 218 deaths were credited to this disease.

Of the 18 deaths 5 occurred in the Urban and 13 in the Rural Districts.

The deaths were reported from Coalville 2, Loughborough, Ashby-de-la-Zouch and Wigston Magna 1 each, and in the Rural Districts, Market Bosworth 6, Ashby-de-la-Zouch 4, and Billesdon, Hinckley, and Melton Mowbray 1 each.

The male deaths totalled 6 and the female 12.

The notifications of Diphtheria totalled 315 against 267 in 1923.

Last year it was noticed that the notifications decreased and the number of deaths increased. This year it will be seen that the figures are *vice versa*, the case fatality per cent. being only 5·71 against 11·24 in 1923.

129 of the notifications were received from the Urban and 186 from the Rural Districts. Last year's figures were 64 and 203.

The majority of the cases in the Urban Districts were reported from :—Coalville 74, Loughborough 17, Wigston Magna 9, Melton Mowbray 8, and Hinckley 6.

There is an exceptionally large increase in the notifications from Coalville (74 as against 24 in 1923). These cases occurred mostly in the last two quarters of the year (27 and 19 respectively).

During the month of June the Infants' School at Ellistown in the Coalville Urban District was visited for the purpose of taking swabs from the school children. In all 42 swabs were obtained and on examination at the County Laboratory 38 proved to be negative and 4 positive.

The Medical Officer of Health for the Coalville Urban District reports as follows :—“ No fewer than 75 notifications were received. Most of the cases were in the Hugglescote and Ellistown districts. The school children of the affected classes



were examined, and suspicious cases of sore throat were excluded from school. At Ellistown Infants' School, Dr. Fairer, Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, took swabs from the throats of 42 children, and as the result of bacteriological examination found 4 of these positive, that is there were 4 'carriers' attending that school. These children were excluded from school, and a diminution in the number of cases occurred in that district. I believe the 'carrier' agency is the main one in the spread of this disease. They were mostly mild cases; but two fatalities occurred. Fourteen of the cases were removed to hospital."

In the Rural Districts, Market Bosworth supplied the greater number of cases, viz., 55, compared to 52 last year. The larger proportion of these cases were reported from Ibstock 22, and Desford 17. The remainder were notified from Kirkby Mallory 5, Witherley 3, Peckleton 3, and Groby, Newbold Verdon, Osbaston, Bagworth and Markfield 1 each. With reference to the outbreak at Ibstock, this occurred in June and in an attempt to stamp out the disease swabs were taken from children attending the Ibstock Council School. In all 30 swabs were obtained of which 5 proved to contain the *Bacillus of Diphtheria*.

The epidemic at Desford necessitated the swabbing of the school twice, once during September, and again in October. On the former visit 40 swabs were taken and 9 were found to be positive, but on the latter occasion only 9 were obtained—none positive.

The Roman Catholic School at Hinckley was visited in December for the purpose of examining the children to detect any "carriers" of the disease.

35 children and 2 parents were swabbed and of these 1 child and 1 parent were positive.

From the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District only 42 cases of *Diphtheria* were reported against 102 last year, an appreciable decrease. I again have to report the village of Measham as having been responsible for the larger number (11). In my report for 1922 I especially mentioned the insanitary condition of this village, and in my report for 1921 I pointed out the urgent

necessity of having a more efficient and satisfactory sewerage scheme.

Other cases occurred at Snarestone 7, Oakthorpe 7, and Donisthorpe 4, and the remainder were reported from isolated villages.

The Rural District of Hinckley was responsible for 29 cases of Diphtheria, the majority being reported from Earl Shilton (22).

From the Blaby Rural District 14 cases were reported against 12 last year. Of the 14 notifications Whetstone 3, Blaby 3, Thurlaston 2, and Cosby 2, accounted for 10, and the remainder were isolated cases.

The remaining Rural Districts were responsible for 46 notifications as follows: —Barrow-on-Soar 13, Melton Mowbray 11, Billesdon 10, Lutterworth 5, Castle Donington 4, Loughborough 2, and Belvoir 1.

In all cases where there is a likelihood of an epidemic reaching considerable proportions the procedure of swabbing the School children is undertaken as a precautionary measure.

The County Laboratory received during the year 997 swabs of which 227 proved to be positive.

**DIPHTHERIA.—The following Table gives the statistics of this disease.**

Year.	No. of Notifications.			No. of Deaths.			* Attack Rate.			Case Fatality per cent.			* Death Rate.			* Death Rate for Rural England and Wales.
	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	
1920	235	230	465	25	25	50	2.12	1.52	1.77	10.64	10.87	10.75	0.23	0.17	0.19	0.15
1921	199	205	404	9	19	28	1.82	1.34	1.54	4.54	9.27	6.93	0.08	0.12	0.11	0.12
1922	110	201	311	8	20	28	0.99	1.30	1.17	7.27	9.95	9.00	0.07	0.12	0.10	0.11
1923	64	203	267	2	28	30	0.57	1.30	0.99	3.13	13.79	11.24	0.02	0.18	0.11	0.07
1924	129	186	315	5	13	18	1.14	1.17	1.15	3.88	6.99	5.71	0.04	0.08	0.06	0.06

\* Per 1000 of Population.

**Scarlet Fever.**

Only two deaths were reported from this disease this year, the same number as in 1923. These were reported from Blaby and Castle Donington Rural Districts. The Blaby Rural District case being in a male—the other a female.

The death rate remains the same as in 1923 and is still below the rate for the rest of the Country.

The number of notifications of this disease show an increase of 30 on last year but is still below the numbers reported during the years 1920, 1921 and 1922. In these three years 1,263 cases were recorded, or an average of 421.

The notifications were chiefly received from:—Urban Districts—Ashby-de-la-Zouch 9, Coalville 9, Loughborough 58, and Oadby 5.

Rural Districts:—Blaby 27, Market Bosworth 22, Barrow-on-Soar 20, Castle Donington 15, Market Harborough 12, and Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Hinckley and Lutterworth 10 each.



**SCARLET FEVER.—The statistical information relating to Scarlet Fever is as follows.**

Year.	No. of Notifications.			No. of Deaths.			* Attack Rate.			Case Fatality per cent.			* Death Rate.			* Death Rate for Rural England and Wales.
	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	
1920	268	195	463	4	1	5	2.42	1.29	1.77	1.49	0.51	1.08	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.04
1921	225	277	502	1	4	5	2.06	1.81	1.91	0.44	1.44	1.00	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.03
1922	129	169	298	2	3	5	1.17	1.09	1.12	1.55	1.77	1.67	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.04
1923	96	120	216	0	2	2	0.86	0.77	0.80	0.00	1.67	0.91	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.03
1924	101	145	246	0	2	2	0.89	0.91	0.90	0.00	1.37	0.81	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02

\* Per 1000 of Population.

### **Typhoid Fever.**

This year shows a decrease both in the number of deaths from and notifications of this disease. Only 2 deaths were recorded from this disease against 6 last year.

The Death Rate compares favourably with the rate for the rest of England and Wales, being identical.

The deaths were reported from the Blaby and Hinckley Rural Districts (1 male, 1 female).

Only 8 notifications were received as compared to 26 in 1923, the attack rate falling accordingly from 0·10 to 0·03.

The 8 cases were reported from Knossington 2, and Hinckley, Loughborough, Wigston, Frisby, Humberstone, and Kirby Muxloe, 1 each.

17 blood examinations were made, and of these, 7 were proved to be Typhoid Fever. Six specimens of fæces were examined, but none were found to contain *Bacillus Typhosus*, these being examinations made previous to the discharge of patients from hospital.

### **Erysipelas.**

71 notifications were recorded from this disease during the year, an increase of 16 on last year.

26 were reported from the Urban and 45 from the Rural Districts.

### **Puerperal Fever.**

4 notifications of this disease were received and 3 deaths reported, as against 5 notifications and 3 deaths last year.

The deaths were recorded in the Hinckley Urban and Barrow-on-Soar and Hinckley Rural Districts.

No blame was attached to any Midwife during the year with regard to these cases.

The Health Visitors who are also Inspectors of Midwives, visit all midwives periodically for the purpose of examining their bags and books, &c., and also all cases of Puerperal Fever immediately a notification is received.

### **Measles.**

The death rate from Measles this year shows a large decrease (0·02 against 0·13). This rate of 0·02 is 0·10 below the rate for the rest of the Country.

Only 5 deaths were reported this year against 36 in 1923, and an average of 28 for the preceding three years.

4 of the deaths were in females and 1 in a male.

### **Whooping Cough.**

This year the deaths from Whooping Cough number 15—half the number of fatal cases in 1923. The death rate has fallen from 0·11 to 0·05 and is much lower than the rate of 0·10 for Rural England and Wales.

The male deaths totalled 10 and the female 5.

### **Poliomyelitis.**

6 cases of this disease were reported but only 1 death. Only 1 case was notified during 1923 and this was not fatal.

The notifications were received from Coalville 2, Coleorton 2, and Ravenstone and Wigston Magna 1 each.

The death occurred in Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District.

### **Encephalitis Lethargica.**

12 deaths from this disease were recorded (7 males, 5 females) from Melton 5 and Ashby Woulds, Coalville, Hinckley and Thurmaston Urban Districts 1 each, and 1 each from the Rural Districts of Billesdon, Hallaton, and Melton Mowbray.

Last year 3 cases of this disease proved fatal.

The number of notifications from this disease have increased from 5 last year to 29 during the year under review.

The majority of these were reported from Melton Mowbray 10 and Coalville 5.

### **Cerebro Spinal Fever.**

2 deaths were recorded from this disease during the year—1 each from Belvoir and Market Bosworth Rural Districts (1 male, 1 female).

Neither of these fatal cases were notified but 1 case was reported from the Melton Mowbray Rural District.

Only 1 death was reported last year and 2 in 1922, 2 in 1921, and 3 and 7 in 1920 and 1919 respectively.

Dr. Fairer made 6 visits to patients showing the symptoms of Cerebro Spinal Fever and Lumbar Punctures were performed, but the majority were found to be Tubercular Meningitis.

One other case was visited but it was not deemed necessary to perform a Lumbar puncture.

In all 9 specimens of Cerebro Spinal Fluid were examined but none were positive.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

25 cases of this disease came under observation during the year against 22 in 1923 and 26 in 1922.

10 were reported from the Urban and 15 from the Rural Districts.

The Health Visitors visit all cases in their particular districts and make special reports.

Any case where the blame devolves on a Certified Midwife through her neglect is at once enquired into and the facts reported to the Central Midwives' Board.



During the year 2 cases have arisen where it was necessary to reprimand the midwives in attendance. In the first case the midwife failed to send for Medical Help and a final letter of warning was sent to her after your Committee had considered the facts.

The other case was more serious and it was thought necessary to report the offending midwife to the Central Midwives' Board.

This Board considered this case and the midwife was found guilty on all charges, except one, and it was resolved to censure her and request that the Local Supervising Authority should report at the end of three months, and again at the end of six months as to whether she is strictly observing the Rules of the Board and as to her conduct as a midwife in general.

Cases.			Vision Un- impaired	Vision Im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths
Notified	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospi- tal.				
25	24	1	24	—	—	1

### **Malaria, Pneumonia, Dysentery and Trench Fever.**

2 cases of Dysentery and 1 of Malaria were notified during the year—all from the Rural Districts.

No cases of Trench Fever were recorded.

There were no notifications received of these diseases during 1923.

211 cases of Pneumonia were notified as against 171 last year. 107 were from the Urban and 104 from the Rural Districts. The deaths recorded totalled 183 and the percentage of total deaths was 5·74.

The Urban and Rural Districts were credited with 81 and 102 deaths respectively.

The male deaths totalled 91 and the female 92.

### **Influenza.**

The deaths from this disease have increased considerably this year, 143 being reported as against 58 last year. 49 were recorded from the Urban and 94 from the Rural Districts.

The male deaths totalled 60 and the female 83.

### **Diarrhoeal Diseases.**

During the year under review the deaths from this disease have happily decreased from 34 in 1923 to 23.

The death rate has in consequence fallen to 4·48, a very satisfactory figure when compared with 7·3 for the rest of the Country.

14 of the deaths occurred in males and 9 in females.

With the exception of last year when there was 14 male deaths and 20 female, the higher proportion has always been noticed in the males.

The following table shows the statistical information in relation to this disease :—

## DIARRHOEAL DISEASES.

Year.	Deaths under Two Years of Age.										England and Wales Rate per 1000 Births.
	Number.			Rate per 1000 Population.			Rate per 1000 Births.				
	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County	Urban	Rural	Whole County		
1920	16	11	27	0.14	0.07	0.10	5.93	3.03	4.26	8.3	
1921	28	32	60	0.26	0.21	0.23	11.30	9.90	10.51	11.5	
1922	10	8	18	0.09	0.05	0.07	4.13	2.58	3.26	6.2	
1923	19	15	34	0.17	0.10	0.13	8.36	4.98	6.39	7.7	
1924	16	7	23	0.14	0.04	0.08	7.25	2.39	4.48	7.3	

The following schools were closed on account of Infectious Diseases during the year :—

Diseases.	No. of Departments Closed.	Average Period of Closure in Weeks.	No. of Children Affected.
Chicken Pox ... ..	10	3	612
Chicken Pox and Influenza ...	1	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	36
Coughs and Colds ... ..	1	1	21
Diphtheria ... ..	4	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	251
Influenza ... ..	18	2	1281
Measles ... ..	11	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	805
Measles and Colds ... ..	1	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	101
Mumps ... ..	3	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	277
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	107
Small Pox ... ..	8	6	1342
Whooping Cough ... ..	9	4	645
Whooping Cough and Colds ...	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	30
Totals ... ..	69	3	5508



## **Tuberculosis.**

### *(a) Details of Scheme.*

The same arrangements for the treatment of Tuberculosis apply as in former years. In addition a temporary provision of 6 beds, in 3 double shelters, for non-pulmonary cases of females has been made at Mowsley Sanatorium ; and for male cases of a similar type 7 beds are provided at the Hinckley Residential Dispensary.

During the year the Ministry of Health were asked to sanction a revised scheme, embodying the building of a new Sanatorium, but in view of the chaotic state of housing this was postponed.

However, towards the end of the year approval was obtained to provide 12 beds for advanced cases at the Isolation Hospitals at Hinckley and Melton Mowbray. It is expected that these beds, the need for which is extremely necessary, will be ready in 1926.

The advanced cases continue to receive nursing by the District Nurses under the Leicestershire County Nursing Association, and 2,452 nursing visits were paid to 41 patients of which number 24 died during the year.

Particulars of admissions to Institutions are now notified to the Local Sanitary Authorities who undertake the disinfection of rooms vacated by the patients.

During the year 22 new cases were supplied with a Shelter and Bedding and throughout the summer every available Shelter was in use, in fact the demand could not be met as promptly as was desired. Twelve new Shelters of a design approved by the Ministry of Health were ordered and 3 were delivered during the year. At the close of the year 42 shelters were available of which number 35 were in constant use.

Ancillary Food grants have continued as heretofore. Milk and Eggs to the value of £20 having been supplied to 9 cases.

(b) *Home Visitation.*

This work continues and the Tuberculosis Medical Officers made 359 visits.

(c) *After-Care Work.*

While no definite After-Care scheme is in operation, the great majority of patients on discharge from a sanatorium are kept under Dispensary supervision and in addition the Health Visitors made 3,797 visits to notified cases of Tuberculosis.

Patients discharged from Sanatoria are whenever possible found employment of a suitable character.

(d) *Prevalence of Tuberculosis.*

There has been a decrease of 43 in the number of notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis, whilst the number of deaths is 15 more than that recorded last year.

The figures for 1924 are:— notifications 303, deaths 220, and a Death Rate of  $\cdot 81$ , whilst the averages for the previous five years are 336, 200 and  $\cdot 76$  respectively.

There were 80 cases of Surgical Tuberculosis notified against 84 in 1923, the number of deaths is 55 against 40, and the Death Rate  $\cdot 15$  against  $\cdot 20$ .

As in previous years there are still a large number of cases notified who never apply for any treatment under the Council Scheme, and many who do apply are too advanced in the disease for any permanent benefit to be obtained.

It will be observed from Table T.B. 1 that many more new cases have been examined both Tubercular and Non-Tubercular, and the number of attendances at the Out-patient Dispensaries has largely increased and more visits have been made to patients in their own homes.

It is believed that the Tuberculosis Scheme is gradually becoming more widely known and the benefits to be obtained more and more appreciated.

Condition of patients on discharge from Sanatoria :—

				Mowsley Sanatorium.	Creton. Sanatorium.
Disease quiescent	...	...	...	54	34
Much improved	...	...	...	31	17
Improved	...	...	...	16	17
Stationary	...	...	...	7	3
Worse	...	...	...	2	6
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				110	77
				<hr/>	<hr/>

**T.B. 1. STATEMENT OF WORK carried out in connection with the Institutional Treatment of Tuberculosis during the period from 1st Jan., 1924, to the 31st Dec., 1924, and sundry particulars in connection with the scheme of treatment.**

*I.—DISPENSARIES.*

Situation of Dispensary stating whether Residential or Visiting Station.	Number of persons, including contacts, who were examined for the first time during the period from 1st January, 1924, to the 31st December, 1924, at or in connection with the Dispensary or visiting Station and were:—		Total number Examined		Number of persons diagnosed to be suffering from Tuberculosis who were treated or supervised at or in connec- tion with the Dispensary or visiting Station during the year.		No. of Out-Patient Attendances.	
	Diagnosed as suffering from Tuberculosis.	Insured	Uninsured	Insured	Uninsured	Insured.	Uninsured.	
<b>COALVILLE,</b> Residential and Visiting Wed., 10 a.m.	60	76	76	76	53	213	157	
<b>HINKLEY,</b> Residential and Visiting Mon. and Thurs. 10 a.m.	42	70	38	104	25	330	66	
<b>MELTON MOWBRAY,</b> Visiting only Tuesdays, 10 a.m.	36	55	38	73	33	237	117	
<b>LOUGHBOROUGH,</b> Visiting only Thursdays, 10 a.m.	110	107	65	176	78	701	211	
<b>LEICESTER,</b> Visiting only Friday, 2 p.m. Pensioners:— Tuesdays 10 a.m.	131	113	113	238	114	521	292	
Totals ..	379	421	330	667	303	2002	843	



**T.B. 2.** 1.—*SANATORIA, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS, FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS (including Observation Beds at Dispensaries.)*

Name and Situation of Institution. (1)	Class of Cases Treated.	Number of Beds available for patients sent by the Council. (2)	Number of patients sent by the Council who were under treatment on the 31st Dec., 1923. (3) (4)		Number of Patients sent by the Council during the year ended December 31st, 1924. (5) (6)		Number of Patients sent by the Council who were discharged or died in the Institution during the year ended 31st December, 1924. (7) (8)		Total number of days during which the Patients referred to in columns 7 and 8 were resident in the Institution. (9) (10)		Average number of days which the Patients referred to in columns 7 and 8 were resident in the Institution. (11) (12)		Number of Patients sent by the Council who were under treatment on the 31st Dec., 1924. (13) (14)	
			Insured	Uninsured	Insured	Uninsured	Insured	Uninsured	Insured.	Uninsured	Insured	Uninsured	Insured	Uninsured
<b>Mowsley Sanatorium,</b> Husbands Bosworth, Rugby	Female Adults P	50	18	14	55	16	49	24	7618	3347	155.5†	139.5+	24	6
	Children P		...	7	..	50	..	36	..	5777	..	160.5	..	21
	Female Adults S	6	opened during year		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Girls S				..	2	..	1	..	42	..	42	..	1
<b>Coalville Residential Dispensary,</b> Bakewell St., Coalville.	Female Adults P	8	4	..	53	20	52	19	1764	600	33.9	31.6	5	1
	Girls P		..	..	..	19	..	17	..	397	..	23.3	..	2
<b>Hinckley Residential Dispensary,</b> Manor House, Bond St., Hinckley	Male Adults P	14	12	1	88	3	89	3	4193	209	47.1	69.7	11	1
	Boys P		..	..	..	10	..	9	..	259	..	28.8	..	1
	Children S	8	..	7	..	15	..	15	..	2450	..	163.3	..	7
<b>Creaton Sanatorium,</b> Northampton.	Male Adults P	20—30	26	..	69	2	75	1	8898	43	118.6*	43	20	1
	Boys P		..	..	..	1	..	1	..	132	..	132	..	..
<b>Preston Hall, Training Colony,</b> Aylesford, Kent.	Male Adult P	?	8	..	..	..	8	..	3159	..	394.9	..	..	..
<b>Papworth Hall, Training Colony,</b> Cambridge.	Male Adults P	?	..	..	1	..	1	..	12	..	12	..	..	..
<b>St. Michaels Home,</b> Axbridge.	Male Adults P	?	..	..	2	..	2	..	192	..	96	..	..	..
<b>Red Cross Pavilion,</b> West Heath, Birmingham.	Male Adults P	?	..	..	3	..	3	..	298	..	99.3	..	..	..
<b>Brompton Hospital Sanatorium,</b> Frimley.	Male Adults P	?	..	..	2	..	1	..	89	..	89	..	1	..
<b>Royal Sea Bathing Hospital,</b> Margate.	Male Adults S	?	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
<b>East Anglian Sanatorium,</b> Nayland.	Male Adults P	?	2B	..	..	..	2B	..	667	..	333.5	..	..	..
<b>Delamere Training Colony,</b> Frodsham.	Male Adults P	?	1B	..	..	..	1B	..	365	..	365	..	..	..
Totals			71	29	274	138	283	126	27255	13256	..	..	62	41

‡ 6 patients stayed less than 6 weeks—Average stay of remainder was 176.1 days.

+ 3 " " " " " " " " " " 156 "

|| 3 " " " " " " " " " " 174.1 "

\* 2 " " " " " " " " " " 121.4 "

P Pulmonary Tuberculosis  
S Surgical Tuberculosis  
B Vocational Training



**T.B. 3. TUBERCULOSIS (Pulmonary and Other.)**

Year.	Number of Notifications.				Number of Deaths.			Death Rate.		
		Urban	Rural	Whole County.	Urban.	Rural.	Whole County.	Urban.	Rural.	Whole County.
1919	Lungs Other	203 30	133 23	336 53	103 23	122 31	225 54	0.97 0.21	0.84 0.21	0.89 0.21
1920	Lungs Other	159 36	135 39	294 75	81 30	82 41	163 71	0.73 0.27	0.54 0.27	0.62 0.27
1921	Lungs Other	188 34	190 37	378 71	94 35	107 31	201 66	0.86 0.32	0.70 0.20	0.77 0.25
1922	Lungs Other	162 26	157 36	329 62	95 27	110 33	205 60	0.86 0.25	0.71 0.21	0.77 0.23
1923	Lungs Other	185 38	161 46	346 84	85 13	120 27	205 40	0.76 0.12	0.77 0.17	0.76 0.15
Average for above 5 years	Lungs Other	179 33	157 36	336 69	92 26	108 32	200 58	0.84 0.24	0.71 0.22	0.76 0.22
1924	Lungs Other	144 34	159 46	303 80	90 27	130 28	220 55	0.79 0.24	0.81 0.18	0.81 0.20

**T.B. 4. TUBERCULOSIS: Notifications and Deaths.**  
**Shewing Age Periods.**

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
0 to 1	...	...	2	1	...	1	6	1
1 to 5	2	...	8	7	3	...	7	6
5 to 15	13	22	16	18	2	4	5	8
15 to 25	50	60	8	6	21	44	4	3
25 to 45	56	59	6	5	44	39	5	5
45 to 65	23	17	2	1	30	26	...	3
65 and upwards	1	...	...	...	4	2	1	1
TOTAL	145	158	42	38	104	116	28	27



DISTRICT.	Estimated Population.	Pulmonary.	Attack Rate.	Non- Pulmonary.	Attack Rate.	Pulmonary.	Death Rate.	Non- Pulmonary.	Death Rate.
URBAN	Ashby-de-la-Zouch	2	.386	3	.579	1	.193	...	...
	Ashby Woulds	4	1.134	...	...	...	...	3	.85
	Coalville	16	.728	5	.227	17	.773	7	.318
	Hinckley	15	1.036	8	.552	17	1.174	5	.345
	Loughborough	55	2.072	5	.188	22	.829	3	.113
	Market Harborough	7	.795	3	.341	8	.908	3	.341
	Melton Mowbray	18	1.831	5	.509	8	.815.	2	.204
	Oadby	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Quorn	2	.8	...	...	1	.4	...	...
	Shepshed	6	1.04	2	.347	5	.867	2	.347
	Thurmaston	10	4.044	2	.809	3	1.213	1	.404
	Wigston Magna	9	.965	1	.107	8	.858	1	.107
	TOTALS.	144	1.269	34	.299	90	.792	27	.238
RURAL.	Ashby-de-la-Zouch	10	.558	7	.391	7	.391	1	.056
	Barrow-on-Soar	43	1.617	18	.677	27	1.015	5	.189
	Belvoir	7	2.103	1	.3	4	1.201	1	.3
	Billesdon	5	.608	...	...	6	.730	...	...
	Blaby	15	.823	2	.11	14	.768	1	.055
	Castle Donington	5	.785	...	...	6	.942	3	.471
	Hallaton	1	.56	...	...	2	1.120	2	1.12
	Hinckley	15	.969	6	.387	24	1.550	5	.323
	Loughborough	6	1.314	1	.219	9	1.971	1	.219
	Lutterworth	15	1.445	1	.096	7	.674	...	...
	Market Bosworth	21	.87	3	.124	13	.539	4	.166
	Market Harborough	9	1.174	1	.13	5	.652	2	.261
	Melton Mowbray	7	.471	6	.404	6	.404	3	.202
	TOTALS.	159	.997	46	.288	130	.815	28	.176

## VENEREAL DISEASES.

Particulars of the work performed in the Treatment Centres is given in the following extracts from the Medical Officers' Reports of the Clinics :—

### Loughborough.

#### *New Cases.*

Total cases admitted were 40 (29 male and 11 female), an increase of 4 on last year. The male patients were :—10 Syphilis, 12 Gonorrhœa and 7 Non-V.D.; the females :—5 Syphilis, 2 Gonorrhœa and 4 Non-V.D. Several of the Non-V.D. patients attended voluntarily after exposure to infection ; this is undoubtedly the result of Propaganda work.

#### *Attendances.*

The total attendances were 717, an increase of 158 on last year. These 717 attendances were made up as follows :—Syphilis 502 (293 male and 209 female); Gonorrhœa 190 (185 male and 5 female); Non-Venereal 25 (17 male and 8 female).

The difference in the attendance by the male and female patients for Gonorrhœa is very marked and is probably due to the fact that females do not suffer so acutely and therefore do not realise the seriousness of their condition.

#### *Treatment.*

63 injections of Arsenobenzol Compounds were given to males and 21 to females. Other forms of treatment were also given, making a total of 363.

In connection with the diagnosis and progress 131 pathological examinations were performed. 65 specimens were also received from the General Practitioners in the County.

97 doses of Arsenobenzol Compounds have been supplied to General Practitioners who have the necessary qualifications.

The following table gives a summary of the work of the Clinic since its commencement in February, 1920 :—

### Loughborough Clinic.

	1924.		1923.		1922.		1921.		1920.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
New Cases	29	11	20	16	27	16	22	6	33	26
	<hr/> 40		<hr/> 36		<hr/> 43		<hr/> 28		<hr/> 59	
Renewed Attendances	495	222	333	226	270	169	210	88	291	211
	<hr/> 717		<hr/> 559		<hr/> 439		<hr/> 298		<hr/> 502	
Arsenobenzol Injections	47	21	41	36	37	35	34	0	59	50
	<hr/> 68		<hr/> 77		<hr/> 72		<hr/> 34		<hr/> 109	
Pathological Examinations	131		97		169		183		325	
Arsenobenzol Compounds to G.P.s.	97		75		137		100		157	

J. A. FAIRER,  
*Assistant County Medical Officer.*

### Leicester Royal Infirmary.

(MALE CLINIC).

*Out-patients.*

*New Cases.*

353 new cases were admitted, 124 of these were Syphilis, 219 Gonorrhœa and 10 Non-V.D.

Of the new cases 266 were from the City and 87 from the County. 10,970 attendances were made, 4,371 for Syphilis and 6,588 for Gonorrhœa. 9,296 were by City patients and 1,674 by County patients.



1,617 injections of Arsenobenzol Compounds were given and 1,103 intramuscular injections of Mercury. Of these 2,043 were for treatment of City cases and 677 for County cases. Gonorrhœa patients received 6,500 Urethral irrigations besides a large number of other forms of treatment.

*In-patients.*

93 patients were admitted to the Wards, 49 being City and 44 County cases.

*Results.*

The number of patients (1) who ceased to attend before completing treatment :—Syphilis 65, Gonorrhœa 76 ; (2) who ceased to attend after completing treatment but without submitting to the necessary tests :—Syphilis 48, Gonorrhœa 60 ; (3) transferred to other Clinics :—Syphilis 1, Gonorrhœa 5 ; (4) who completed treatment and proved cured after repeated tests :—Syphilis 31, Gonorrhœa 63.

*Points of Material Interest.*

1. There is an 18 per cent. decrease in the number of new patients.
2. Marked increase in number of attendances for treatment.
3. An increase in the number of Non-V.D. cases who have risked infection or suspect themselves of being infected.
4. The decrease in County new cases and attendances.

H. J. BLAKESLEY,

*Medical Officer, Male Venereal Clinic,  
Leicester Royal Infirmary.*

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**Leicester Royal Infirmary.**

(FEMALE CLINIC).

*New Cases.*

Totalled 320—86 of which were from the County. The cases were Syphilis 57, Gonorrhœa 26, and Non-V.D. 3.



*Attendances.*

Total 6,189 of which 1,034 were made by County Patients. 794 were suffering from Syphilis, 238 from Gonorrhœa and 2 were Non-V.D.

*Treatment.*

Arsenobenzol Compounds have been given to 303 patients.

The total number of in-patient days of treatment given to County patients was 625.

**St. Mary's Home.**

This work has been divided into two parts, (1) work at the Hostel and, (2) work at the weekly clinic.

(1) The number of girls admitted to the Hostel from the County during the year was 12. There were also 2 girls and a baby in residence at the beginning of the year. Of these 15, 5 were Syphilis, 5 Gonorrhœa, and 5 had a double infection.

During the year 13 girls have been discharged.

(2) The work of the weekly clinic has increased and the new out-patient premises are a great improvement on the old.

Girls from the County are considered in two special ways. They are kept in the Hostel longer during the winter months, owing to the difficulty of getting home after dark, and they are seen as soon as possible when attending as Out-patients, so that they may catch the earliest train or bus to their several destinations.

BESSIE SYMINGTON,  
*Medical Officer, Female Venereal Clinic.*

## COUNTY LABORATORY.

The following is a summary of the investigations carried out during the past year :—

	Posi- tive.	Nega- tive.	Total.
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli ...	264	742	1006
Throat Swabs for Diphtheria ...	227	770	997
Hair for Ringworm ...	201	125	326
Milk examinations (bacteriological) ...	—	—	266
Sewage and Water analyses ...	—	—	153
Urine analyses (general and bacteriological) ...	—	—	127
Films for Gonococci ...	41	61	102
Wassermann Tests (collection of blood only) ...	26	66	92
Widal Tests for Typhoid Fever ...	7	10	17
Urine for Tubercle Bacilli ...	6	9	15
Blood Counts ...	—	—	11
Cerebro Spinal Fluid for Meningococci ...	—	9	9
Cerebro Spinal Fluid (general and Cytological) ...	—	—	9
Fæces for Bacillus Typhosus ...	—	6	6
Films for S. Pallida ...	2	1	3
Miscellaneous ...	—	—	31
			3,170

The above total is the largest number of investigations which so far have been completed in one year, and is an increase of 396 on last year.

The numbers of investigations since the Laboratory first opened in 1920 are as follows :—

Year	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
Investigations	2449	2397	2531	2774	3170

Total for five years 13,321.

It is now found imperative to keep the laboratory open every day of the week, Sundays and Bank Holidays included. Specimens received during the week-end are examined and the results communicated by telephone to the General Practitioners on the Sunday morning.

The whole of the bacteriological work of the County is performed in the laboratory, with the exception of Wasserman Tests and Histological Examinations; and in addition chemical analyses are made of sewage effluents and various samples of drinking water collected or forwarded from different parts of the County.

With a view to ascertaining the cleanliness of the milk sold in the Urban and Rural Districts, the Sanitary Committee decided to extend the laboratory and make structural alterations, so that further milk examinations could be performed. To cope with the increased work, a second laboratory assistant was essential and Mr. H. F. Warner, clerk in the General Department, was appointed on December 20th, 1924.

The Urban and Rural Authorities were informed of the facilities available. Several of the Authorities concerned readily embraced the opportunity to have various samples of milk from the Retailers and Producers of their districts, examined bacteriologically.

266 bacteriological examinations were made this year, as compared with 71 last year and 36 the year before.

The investigation consists in estimating the number of micro-organisms in one cubic centimetre (about 17 drops) and the presence or absence of *Bacillus Coli* (the organism contained in Manure) in quantities of 1/10th, 1/100th and 1/1000th of a cubic centimetre.

### *Tuberculosis.*

During the year 1006 specimens were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, and this organism was detected in 264 of them.

The specimens were received as follows:—Tuberculosis Medical Officers 460 ; General Practitioners 495 ; and 51 were received from the Pensions Board.

Whilst there is a decrease of 70 received from the Pensions Board, the Tuberculosis Medical Officers have forwarded 80 more than last year and the General Practitioners 22.

During the last few years there has been a marked increase in the number of specimens forwarded by the General Practitioners, who are availing themselves more and more of the facilities afforded by the laboratory.

In addition 15 specimens of Urine were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and 6 of these showed this organism to be present.

### *Diphtheria.*

Of the 997 throat swabs examined, 227 were found to contain the Bacillus of Diphtheria. The large number of negative swabs is partly accounted for by the fact that patients in the Isolation Hospitals are not discharged until 2 consecutive negative results have been obtained ; thus ensuring that they are free from infection before returning to their homes.

The Isolation Hospitals alone forwarded 390 swabs, whilst 449 were received from the General Practitioners, and the remaining 158 have been collected from the following schools in the County where Diphtheria has occurred, with the object of preventing the spread of this disease.

The particulars are as follows :—

Date.	School.	No. of swabs.	Positive.
5/6/24	Ibstock Council	30	5
2/7/24	Ellistown C. Infants	42	4
16/9/24	Desford Council	40	9
13/10/24	Ditto	9	0
18/12/24	Hinckley R.C.	35 (+ 2 parents)	2 (1 parent)
		<hr/> 158 <hr/>	<hr/> 20 <hr/>



As 20 swabs showed the *Bacillus* of Diphtheria to be present out of 158 this gives a percentage of 12·6. This percentage is not a true one as swabs are only taken from contacts and any suspicious throats and not from all children in the different schools.

With reference to swabs forwarded by General Practitioners, the receipt of a report within 24 hours has been very much appreciated, as doubtful cases have been definitely diagnosed and the necessary isolation and treatment administered in the early stages of the disease.

#### *Ringworm.*

326 specimens of hair were examined and of these 201 were found to show the spores of Ringworm. The whole of these specimens were received from the School Medical Officers and School Nurses, the majority being collected at the 3 School Clinics in the County.

#### *Sewage and Water Analyses.*

During the year 153 samples of water and sewage effluent were examined.

7 samples per month were taken during May, June, July and September—28 in all—in connection with the Government Hydrographical Survey of the Trent Water-shed. A report of the analyses was sent to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The remainder were specimens of drinking water from various sources, effluents from Sewage Farms, and samples from Rivers and Brooks above and below where sewage effluent joins them.

#### *Urine Analyses.*

127 specimens of urine were examined during the year, the majority of these being from Candidates for Bursarships.

#### *Venereal Diseases.*

The total number of investigations made in connection with Venereal Disease was 194. Of these, 102 were films for Gonococci and the remainder 92 specimens of Blood for Wassermann Tests. In addition there were also 3 examinations of films for *Spirocheata Pallida*.

Of the Gonococcal slides 41 were shown to contain the Gonococcus, whilst of the Wassermann Tests 26 were positive. Of the 3 films examined Spirocheata Pallida were found in 2.

Out of a total of 197 specimens, 132 were collected at the Loughborough V.D. Clinic whilst the remaining 65 were from General Practitioners in the County.

### *Typhoid Fever.*

17 blood examinations were made, and of these, 7 were found to be Typhoid Fever. Six specimens of fæces were examined, but none of these were positive. These specimens were from the Isolation Hospitals, previous to the discharge of Typhoid patients.

### *Cerebro Spinal Fever.*

9 specimens of Cerebro Spinal Fluid were examined but none of these were found to contain the Meningococcus. Lumbar Puncture was performed by myself in 6 of these cases, but the majority were found to be Tubercular Meningitis and not Cerebro Spinal Fever. Another case was visited but the symptoms did not justify Lumbar Puncture being performed.

In addition 9 General and Cytological examinations were made of Cerebro Spinal Fluid in the Laboratory.

The examinations have been divided into different areas (Urban and Rural) from which the specimens were received and each Medical Officer of Health has had forwarded to him a list of the investigations received from his own district.

I would like to add a word of thanks to my Assistant, Mr. J. N. Graham, for the ready and willing way in which he has helped me particularly when there has been a heavy influx of examinations.

J. A. FAIRER,

*Assistant County Medical Officer and Bacteriological.*

17 Friar Lane, Leicester,

1st April, 1925.

## **Maternity and Child Welfare.**

One further Infant Welfare Centre has been opened during the year making the total number of Centres in the County 34.

The Centres are all under medical supervision and every endeavour is made that they are visited by a Medical Officer at least once a month.

262 visits were made during 1924, as follows:—Dr. M. E. Weston 135, Dr. N. A. Coward 101, Dr. J. A. Fairer 19, Dr. T. Robinson 5, Dr. J. B. Dalton 2.

Last year the total number of visits was 239.

The Health Visitors attend all the meetings for the purpose of holding consultations with the mothers, giving advice on feeding, and systematically weighing the children. The Health Visitors are experts on infant feeding and dietetic derangements, but if medical advice is required this can be obtained when a Medical Officer is in attendance.

A list of Centres in operation in the County will be found in my report for the year 1922, and with the addition of the two Centres opened in 1923 and Evington (Village Hall) during 1924, that list remains the same.

One unmarried mother was sent to St. Saviour's Home, Northampton.

During the year approximately £100 has been spent in supplying milk to necessitous mothers, and children under three years of age. 77 Claims for Doctors' fees under the Midwives' Act 1918 have also been received and £127 expended to meet these accounts. Of this amount £34 16s. 6d. has been recovered from the patients.

## **Children's Convalescent Home.**

The County Council still retain the use of 15 beds at this home for County patients.

During the year 77 children were admitted; 65 through the Sanitary Committee, and the remaining 12 through the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee. The former averaged a stay of 44·5 days and the latter 61·3 days.



On discharge the children were classified as :—Satisfactory 36, Improved 26, and Much Improved 15.

Dr. Tuckett, the Medical Officer in charge of the Home, reports as follows :—

“ Dear Dr. Robinson,

I enclose the Medical Records of the 77 Patients admitted to the Charnwood Forest Convalescent Home for 1924. This shows the splendid benefit they derived from their Convalescent Treatment. One Case, a boy aged 6, who was there for the whole of the Season, improved in health beyond all belief, he gained  $9\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. and instead of being a helpless cripple he is now on the road to perfect health. He will still want further treatment. He slept on the balcony the whole time. This case is one of many who were restored to health. Please inform your Committee that they are doing a splendid work in helping these children. I should like to point out that 21 of these children were suffering from Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids and it would have been better if they had been operated on before coming to the Home, as they would have derived greater benefit from their stay and could have been taught how to breathe properly.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) W. REGINALD TUCKETT.”

### **Inspection of Midwives.**

The Midwives in the County are still under the supervision of the County Health Visitors in accordance with the 1902 and 1918 Acts.

165 Midwives notified their intention to practice in the County during the year. Of these 1 left the County and 1 ceased to practice during the year. Of the 165 who notified, 133 held the Central Midwives' Board Certificate, 8 The London Obstetrical Society Certificate, and the remaining 24 were *bona-fide*.

The following returns were received during the year from the Midwives in the County :—Medical Help 417, Still Birth 44, Laying out of the Dead 37, Artificial Feeding 22, Liability to be a Source of Infection 13, and the Death of Mother or Child 3, Total 536.



The causes for sending for Medical Help were:—For the Mother: Ruptured or torn perineum 86, Prolonged Labour 77, Abortion 23, Abnormal Presentation 22, Adherent Placenta 21, Still-birth 16, Premature Births 15, Hæmorrhage 14, Twins 3, and other causes 76. Total 353. For the Child: Babies Eyes 37, Feeble or Delicate Baby 15, Other Causes 12. Total 64.

The Midwives' records at the County Health Office show that 2,468 births have been attended during the year. Of these 699 were cases where both Doctor and Midwife were in attendance and 1,769 were cases attended by Midwives alone.

### Health Visitors.

The following is a statement of the work carried out during 1924 :—

Visits to Births	...	...	...	33,022
„ to 'Tuberculous Patients' Homes				3,797
„ „ Pre-Natal Cases	...	...		711
„ „ Midwives	...	...		302
„ re Children Act	...	...		110
„ „ Still Births	...	...		102
„ „ Ophthalmia Neonatorum				56
„ „ Premature Births		...		13
„ „ Milk Applications		...		13
				<hr/>
				38,126
				<hr/>
Attendances at Infant Welfare Centres				915
„ „ Tuberculosis Dispensaries				156
Lectures at Infant Welfare Centres	...			204
„ „ Women's Institutes	...			16
Lantern Lectures at Infant Welfare Centres				5
				<hr/>
				1,296
				<hr/>

The number of visits made during the year for all causes was 39,422, the number of visits to parishes 4,684, whilst the total mileage cycled was 16,180.

### Notification of Births Act 1907.

The total number of Births notified was 4,335. Of this number 196 were reported to me by the Registrars. The Midwives in the County notified 1,753, and the Doctors 1,746.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### Water Supply.

The following are extracts from the reports of the Medical Officers of Health for the various districts :—

Coalville Urban :—“ The water supply continues fairly sufficient and of a high standard of organic purity. Samples have been regularly analysed and found satisfactory. In the Whitwick Ward a few springs are still used for domestic supply. These have been analysed from time to time and found well within the limits of usable water. The rural portion of the district is supplied from surface wells mostly well-constructed and puddled at the top to prevent surface pollution. During 1924, 107 addition houses have been connected with the public supply, making a total of 4,118 now supplied from the public mains.”

Market Harborough Urban :—“ 3 samples from the town main were analysed and found to be highly satisfactory. Owing to the addition of minor auxiliary supplies, the degree of hardness is not now so pronounced. 103 houses derive their supply from private wells, of which 9 samples were tested and 1 analysed. 1 well was found to be polluted by leaking drains, and the drains having been repaired, a further sample showed the water to be fit for use.”

Hallaton Rural :—“ 3 samples were taken for analyses and all were condemned. 1 well was closed and 1 new one provided.”

Lutterworth Rural :—“ During the year 12 wells have been abolished and a public supply installed in lieu of well water. 15 samples were analysed and 4 condemned. 5 wells were closed and 9 cleansed or repaired.”

Melton Rural :—“ There was a shortage of drinking water at Asfordby (East End) and in Asfordby Valley in the spring and early summer. The public pump at the East End of Asfordby, and several others were out of repair, and put in order. For the rest of the year the supply proved adequate to the public needs, but it was

likely that a shortage would occur again in a dry season. There was no shortage of water for drinking purposes in any other part of the district. The lift and force pump to the public well in Grimston proving defective, it was replaced by a new water elevator, which is now working satisfactorily."

Market Harborough Rural:—"The district is entirely dependant for its water supply (except the village of Lubenham) on public or private wells ; nearly all these are shallow wells."

### **Drainage and Sewage.**

The following are extracts from the reports of the Medical Officers of Health on the drainage and sewage in their various districts:—

Market Harborough Urban:—"The district (with the exception of 3 privies) is sewered on the water carriage system, which has been maintained in efficient order. 427 inspections of drains on private premises were made resulting in the carrying out of 167 improvements and repairs. 21 smoke tests and 12 water tests were conducted."

Coalville Urban:—"The district is sewered throughout except in the rural part. Some 300 yards of new sewer have been laid to meet building requirements. There are two sewage farms, one for the South side of the district at Kelham Bridge, and one for the North side at Snarrows. Both farms have worked satisfactorily, and the effluents have been examined from time to time. During the year 57 ash-pit privies and 2 pail closets have been converted into water closets, and six ash-pit privies to pail closets."

Shepshed Urban:—"The new works at the sewage farm are nearly completed, and they should provide for sewage disposal for many years to come."

Wigston Magna Urban:—"With a view to developing the district, a scheme for the extension of sewers in several directions has been prepared by Messrs. Pick, Everard,



Keay and Gimson, of Leicester. The estimated cost of the whole of the work is £16,575. It is proposed to carry out the extension on the Leicester Road (£2,550 approximately) at once. Arrangements are being made for the Oadby U.D.C. to treat the sewage from the Oadby Lane area, upon their sewage farm. The new pumps at the Crow Mills Pumping Station which were installed last year, are now in good working order."

Castle Donington Rural :—" 842 inspections of drains, drain traps, etc., were made during the year, and 83 nuisances abated. 11 cesspools were repaired or cleansed and 4 were abolished and the drains connected to the sewer."

Hallaton Rural :—" 30 drains, etc., were inspected and 2 nuisances abated. The number of cesspools repaired, cleansed, etc., was 6 and 2 were abolished and drains connected to the sewer."

Lutterworth Rural :—" The number of drains inspected was 276 and 43 nuisances subsided. 6 cesspools were either cleansed or repaired."

Billesdon Rural :—" A great deal of time and attention has been devoted to the preparation of a comprehensive scheme for the sewerage of the parishes of Humberstone and Evington. The rapid development of an estate in the former parish has made the completion of a scheme a matter of urgency, and the work is now about to be commenced."

Market Harborough Rural :—" Plans for the New Sewage Disposal Works at Foxton are in the hands of the Ministry of Health ; as soon as approval is received the work will be commenced."

Melton Mowbray Rural :—" The various sewage farms have been kept in a fairly satisfactory condition ; all the tanks and trenches having been regularly cleaned out.

The following new sanitary pipe sewers have been laid during the year, besides several other short lengths in various villages, to replace old and defective drains or in extension of existing sewers, namely : Nether



Broughton, 75 yards of nine inch pipes ; Hoby, 50 yards of nine inch pipes ; and Hose, 40 yards of six inch pipes. Glazed earthenware gulleys have been fixed in several villages in place of untrapped openings to drains.

A scheme has been considered by you for providing new outfall sewers and sewage outfall works at Twyford, Long Clawson, and Nether Broughton, and also for Welby Lane (Sysonby). The scheme is progressing, and in all probability the work will be begun in each parish in 1925. Owing, however, to the refusal of the Melton Mowbray Urban Council to permit the proposed Welby Lane sewer to be connected with the Urban Council's adjacent sewers, arrangements have had to be made to purchase land in the parish for the treatment of the sewage from the houses in Welby Lane which are in the Rural area.

Complaints respecting the unsatisfactory condition of the watercourses at Burrough and Knossington were considered by your Council, and you gave instructions for a report on the proper method of sewage disposal in those villages."

Barrow on Soar Rural :—" A comprehensive scheme for the sewerage of the parish of Rothley having been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health is now being proceeded with.

It is to be hoped that a sewerage scheme for the new part of Cropston and Thurcaston will not be further deferred. The necessity for replacing cesspools by efficient sewers is becoming increasingly evident in this area.

I have within the past few weeks recommended the sewerage of part of the Birstall new estate where considerable nuisance arises from the overflow of cesspools.

In all these parishes, as in many others surrounding Leicester, the great mistake has been made of developing an estate for building without first providing the necessary sewers. The cesspools even when frequently emptied are an almost inevitable source of nuisance, and often within a year or two of their completion a sewer must be laid. The cost of constructing cesspools is considerable and it represents so much waste. It should,

in my opinion, be rendered statutory impossible to develop building estates in this manner."

### **Scavenging.**

The following are extracts from the reports of the Medical Officers of Health in the Scavenging in their particular districts :

Coalville Urban :—"The continued conversion of ash-pit privies into water closets, and the more general use of dust-bins are gradually making the scavenging of the district more efficient.

The large amount of dry refuse, and the difficulty of obtaining suitable tips in a populous district, are making imminent the necessity for the provision of a suitable destructor."

Lutterworth Rural :—"I have had occasion within the last month to direct attention to the desirability on sanitary grounds of extending the system of scavenging of night soil and refuse to all villages containing more than forty inhabited houses, and steps are, I think, being taken to give effect to the recommendation in respect of the three parishes in which the need is probably most accentuated, viz. :—Gilmorton, Dunton Bassett and Claybrook."

Melton Mowbray Rural :—"There is no refuse destructor in your district. Ashes and other domestic refuse are usually taken from the middens, cesspools, ash pits and ash bins to be dug into the gardens or arable land. There is a regular scavenger for Asfordby who collects the refuse from the earth closets of that parish and takes it to arable land, where it is ploughed in. In several villages a bunker or refuse dump is provided for the reception of old tins and other rubbish, and such refuse is periodically removed and deposited in old pits and covered over."

Market Harborough Rural :—"Arrangements at Fleckney, Kibworth Beauchamp, Kibworth Harcourt, and Smeeton continue as before.

I have again to call attention to the unsatisfactory condition of some of the villages, particularly Lubenham and Husbands Bosworth, due to lack of proper arrangements for scavenging."

## **Rivers and Streams.**

Examinations of the various Rivers and Streams in the County have been made during the year especially above and below the points where sewage effluents pass into the Rivers. The actual sewage effluents passing into the waters have also been periodically analysed.

In connection with the Hydrographical Survey of the River Trent watershed, samples from the River Soar at various points were analysed during the months of May, June, July and September.

In addition to the above the Rivers Eye, Wreake, Welland, Sence, and Swift have all come under observation as regards pollution during the year. The Anstey, Glenfield, Ratby, Kirby Muxloe, Castle Donington, Gracedieu, Garendon, Twyford, Thorpe Satchville, Fleckney, Rothley, and Wash Brooks, and also various small streams throughout the County have all been visited and samples analysed from time to time.

The conditions prevailing below the Wanlip Outfall still shows that the River Soar is polluted from time to time owing to the sewage passing down this outfall from the City of Leicester. Examination of the Brook at Rothley shows that this is also polluted by the sewage effluents from the City Authority's farm at Beaumont Leys.

The County Sanitary Committee reported pollutions to the following District Councils during the year :—Shepshed, Quorn, and Wigston Urbans, and Barrow on Soar, Blaby, Hinckley, Lutterworth, Market Bosworth, and Market Harborough Rurals.

The Ministry of Health held inquiries with reference to loans for Sewage Disposal Works in the following instances :—Kegworth £4,350, Rothley £20,800, and Nanpantan £5,218.

## **Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.**

From the Sanitary Inspectors' reports I have obtained the following information :—

In the Urban Districts there is a total of 258 retail purveyors, 237 producers and 2,451 cows. A Veterinary Inspector has been appointed in all the districts excepting Market Harborough (where the Sanitary Inspector has the power to call in a Veterinary Surgeon if necessary), and Thurmaston. In all the Districts regulations have been adopted.



In the Rural Districts there is a total of 811 retail purveyors, 2,017 producers and 31,062 cows. All the Districts have appointed Veterinary Inspectors except Castle Donington, (where the Sanitary Inspector has the power to call in a Veterinary Surgeon if necessary), Hallaton, and Belvoir. All the Districts have adopted regulations.

The totals for the County, therefore, are 1,069 retail purveyors, 2,254 producers, and 33,513 cows.

### **Tuberculous Milk.**

I have no information as to the number of milking cows found to be tuberculous in the County as the result of the Veterinary Inspectors' examinations.

### **Clean Milk (Competition).**

During the year twenty farmers in the County entered into a Milk Competition, and arrangements were made that each competitor should forward 6 specimens of milk, whilst a 7th or "catch sample" should be obtained by the Director of Agriculture.

These samples were approximately 32 hours old before incubation (as these were the previous morning's milk) whilst the surprise specimens were collected after the evening milking, and were approximately 22 hours old.

The low count in several cases was a striking testimony to the care and cleanliness observed by many of the farmers.

It may be stated that out of 20 competitors, 8 produced "Grade A" milk in each of the 7 specimens examined, 2 dairy-men produced it 6 times, 3 produced it 5 times, 1 produced it 4 times, 3 produced it 3 times and 2 produced it only once out of the possible 7 times. Only 1 competitor failed to produce "Grade A" milk in any of the 7 samples examined.

The most noticeable feature was that on the whole, there was a steady improvement after the first samples.

Of the remaining 80 samples, the majority of these were from three "Grade A" Producers in the County—daily specimens were obtained from two of these for nearly a month with the object of ensuring that such "Grade A" milk was within the recognised legal standard.

### **Bacterial Tests.**

A scheme has just been started for testing bacteriologically the samples of milk sold by retailers in the County. The District



Councils have asked to have samples taken of milk as sold to the consumer with a view to ascertaining what is really the character of the milk consumed. These samples are taken by the Sanitary Inspectors by arrangement with the County Laboratory. The County Council have extended the laboratory with a view to facilitating this work and have agreed to accept a small fee of 2/6 per sample for the examination. The scheme is progressing very favourably and some valuable information has been obtained.

The effect of the scheme is that each retailer is informed of the character of the milk he sells and it is up to him as well as the Local Authority to see that improvement is effected.

There is still a considerable amount of dirty milk produced.

### **Graded Milks.**

The Ministry of Health have reported that they have issued licences for "Certified Milk," to four producers, and for "Grade A (Tuberculin tested)" to one producer.

The County Council have issued a "Grade A" licence to three producers; two of these have previously had licences, and one is a new licence.

## **HOUSING.**

### **Number of Houses Erected during the Year.**

I have obtained from the Sanitary Inspectors the following information:—

In the Urban Districts:—Ashby-de-la-Zouch 11, 4 subsidised; Ashby Woulds 3, 1 subsidised; Coalville 46, 40 subsidised; Hinckley 91, 81 subsidised; Loughborough 59, 59 subsidised; Market Harborough 39, 28 subsidised; Melton Mowbray 22, 22 subsidised; Oadby 27, 13 subsidised; Quorn 10, 7 subsidised; Shepshed 5, 4 subsidised; Thurmaston 52, 10 subsidised; Wigston Magna 68, 42 subsidised, 26 by Local Authority.

Total 433. 311 subsidised—Local Authority 26.

In the Rural Districts:—Ashby-de-la-Zouch 22, 16 subsidised; Barrow-on-Soar 130, 80 subsidised; Belvoir Nil, Nil; Billesdon 95, 10 subsidised; Blaby 205, 177 subsidised; Castle Donington 6, 6 subsidised; Hallaton Nil, Nil subsidised; Hinckley 89, 85 subsidised; Loughborough 13, 7 subsidised; Lutterworth 28, 23 subsidised; Market Bosworth 19, 16 subsidised; Market Harborough 12, 8 subsidised; Melton Mowbray 31, 16 subsidised.

Total 650. 444 subsidised.

Grand total 1,083. 755 subsidised—Local Authority 26.

The estimated increase in the population during the year 1924 was 5,100 and on the basis of 4·14 persons per house (as per the last Census), 1,232 houses would be required for the increase in population. As it was, 1,083 houses were produced, leaving a deficit of 149 on the year.

### Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

These Acts are administered by the Police in this County, and the following is the record of the work done during 1924, under the Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations 1912 and 1917.

*County of Leicester, January 1st, 1924—December 31st, 1924.*

Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

(a) Number of samples examined for the presence of a preservative.		(b) Number in which Preservative was reported to be present, and percentage of preservative found in each sample.
Milk.	116	None
Cream.	10	None

*Cream sold as Preserved Cream.*

Correct statements made	..	..	..	4
Statements incorrect	..	..	..	1

*Percentage of Preservative  
found in each Sample.*

*Percentage Stated on  
Statutory Label.*

·22	·40
·25	·40
·28	·40
·33	·40
·65	·40 (Vendor cautioned)

Determination made of milk fat in cream sold as Preserved Cream :—

(1) above 35 per cent.	..	..	5
(2) below 35 per cent.	..	..	-
			—
			5
			—

All samples were taken with the usual formalities under the sale of Food and Drugs Act.









### Causes of Death in Urban Areas 1924.

[illegible]





